

Good morning,

My name is Mary Gaudet-Wilson and I live at 12 Whippoorwill Hill Road, Newtown, CT. I would like to address S.B. 79, AN ACT CLARIFYING PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES REGARDING THE USE OF PROPERLY INSTALLED AND CONSTRUCTED BARRIER SYSTEMS FOR CERTAIN PLANTINGS.

While I enthusiastically support this bill, I am asking that two items be added:

- 1) ADD "or to grow" in subsection (c), line 5, after the words "to be planted."
- 2) ADD subsection (g) to read "A private right of action may be maintained by an adjoining property owner to enforce the provisions of [subsection (c)] of this statute."

These two items are necessary 1) to bring clarity to the issue, and 2) to enable a plaintiff to be eligible for attorney fees and expenses if he/she is the prevailing party. This gives the homeowner a legal option if the town chooses not to take action.

Running bamboo is a continuing problem in my town and neighboring towns. The current legislation which is unclear results in town governments not taking action. Therefore, we are left with a situation which pits neighbor against neighbor, some of whom do not have the resources to take legal action to protect their own property value which is being threatened by the spread of running bamboo.

Thank you very much for your consideration of the above.

Mary Gaudet-Wilson